BEFORE THE

Federal Communications Commission ORIGINAL

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

FFICE OF THE SECRETARY

In re Application of MM Docket 93-155 RICHARD BOTT II File No. BAPH-920917GO (Assignor) and WESTERN COMMUNICATIONS, INC. (Assignee) For Assignment of Construction Permit of Station KCVI(FM),

To: Administrative Law Judge Arthur I. Steinberg

Blackfoot, Idaho

RESPONSE TO "MASS MEDIA BUREAU'S OPPOSITION TO BOTT'S REQUEST FOR THE CHIEF, MASS MEDIA BUREAU TO TESTIFY"

Richard P. Bott, II ("Bott"), by counsel, hereby responds to the Mass Media Bureau's opposition to the calling of the Chief, Mass Media Bureau ("Chief"), as a witness in this proceeding.

- The Bureau correctly recognizes that Bott has called the 1. Chief in two witness capacities: first, as a witness to be examined by Bott as Bott meets his burden of going forward and, second, as a witness to be cross-examined with respect to exhibits exchanged by the Bureau.
- 2. Paragraphs 4 and 5 of the Bureau's opposition oppose the calling of the Chief on erroneous, unfounded bases. First, the Bureau asserts that Bott is "in effect again" seeking

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reconsideration of the <u>HDO</u>. That is untrue. It is clear that the hearing is going forward on the designated issues; the Chief is not called to support reconsideration but to produce testimony. The Bureau's assertion that producing the Chief is "in effect" opening the <u>HDO</u> to reconsideration only reflects the extraordinary sensitivity of the Bureau to the lack of any evidence whatsoever to support the <u>HDO</u>.

- 3. Second, the Bureau asserts that Bott is "again attempting to shift the burdens." Bott has <u>never</u> attempted to shift the burdens. Bott has sought to obtain a statement of the "precise factual questions" he is expected to address, to which he believes he is entitled. Being told what question(s) one must resolve is not at all akin to a shifting of burdens, as Bott made clear at the prehearing conference (Tr. 23-24).
- 4. Third, the Bureau asserts that Bott is "attempting to obfuscate the proceeding." It points out that "it is Bott, not the Chief, Mass Media Bureau, who is on trial." Bott is <u>not</u> attempting to obfuscate the proceeding. In the course of denying Bott's request that the Bureau be directed to outline the precise factual questions Bott is to address under the issues, the Presiding Judge said "I think the H.D.O. gives you enough -- it would give me enough to know how to proceed at the hearing. . . . " (Tr. 27) Taking this advice, and on the basis of evaluating the <u>HDO</u>, Bott has determined to proceed at hearing by, in part, eliciting testimony from the Chief. To seek that testimony does not put the Chief on trial, as the Bureau complains. It is like many simple,

routine cases of the defendant calling a perhaps adverse witness, in some cases the plaintiff, whose testimony, even if only an admission of a lack of personal knowledge, may be helpful to the defendant's case. This happens in courtrooms everyday. It neither shifts the burden of proof nor does it cast the plaintiff (or non-plaintiff adverse witness) as the defendant.

While the Bureau argues that the Chief should not appear as a witness because of his lack of "personal knowledge", the extent of his knowledge or lack thereof will be evident when he He has not, incidentally, provided a appears as a witness. declaration that he lacks all personal knowledge of the matters raised by Bott. Knowledge by the Chief sufficient to be admissible as evidence would be likely; the issue confronting Bott is, after all, whether he made misrepresentations to or lacked candor with the Commission in prosecuting an application in the Mass Media services, not whether he jaywalked in Kansas City. Moreover, the admission by the Bureau in paragraph 3 that the Chief had knowledge of "the content of the text of the Bureau's Response" to Bott's Request for Admission suggests strongly that, as Bott has believed, the Chief is an exceptionally appropriate witness with respect to Bott Exhibit 1.1

The representation allegedly made by Bott that throughout the six year effort to obtain the Blackfoot permit he intended to operate the Blackfoot station with a commercial religious format is a representation allegedly made to the Commission is an assignment application proceeding in the Mass Media Bureau, not a representation allegedly made to some private party. \underline{HDO} , $\P\P$ 3 and 9.

WHEREFORE, Bott urges the Presiding Judge to deny the Mass Media Bureau's Opposition filed October 19, so that Bott may call the Chief, Mass Media Bureau, as a witness.

Respectfully submitted,

RICHARD P. BOTT, II

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Roberta Wadsworth, a secretary in the law offices of Fletcher, Heald & Hildreth, hereby certify that I have on this 19th day of October, 1993, had copies of the foregoing RESPONSE TO "MASS MEDIA BUREAU'S OPPOSITION TO BOTT'S REQUEST FOR THE CHIEF, MASS MEDIA BUREAU TO TESTIFY" mailed by U.S. Mail first class, postage prepaid, to the following:

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